

From: Patricia Schifferle [<mailto:pacificadvocates@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2013 11:43 AM
To: Torgersen, Carl@DWR
Cc: Jercich, Scott@DWR; watercontractextension@dwr; 'Rebecca Crebbin-Coates'
Subject: Failure to Provide Notification of Public Meetings Re Contract Extension Negotiation Sessions

Dear Mr Torgersen,

On numerous occasions and by email, I have requested to be notified of the ever changing negotiation sessions between the Department of Water Resources and the State Water Project Contractors contract extension negotiations.

On Tuesday September 17th, I understand a session was held. Documents were distributed to others at 9pm the evening of September 16th. No notice was provided to me nor does it seem notice was provided to other members of the public.

Please be advised, failure to attend the meeting was not the result of lack of interest, to the contrary it was the failure to provide notice to the public of the meeting held at the Holiday Inn on September 17, 2013. As mentioned in the past, I travel a great distance to attend these meetings. The courtesy notification and materials provided to the State Water Project Contractors in advance of the meeting need to be made available to the public. All of these communications are between public agencies. It is difficult to discern why this information is not being made readily available to the public at the same time it is made available to others in the negotiation sessions.

If needed let me know if I should file a Public Records Act Request for all communication between your negotiators and the state water project contractors. Conversations were observed to have occurred out of the public arena regarding an essential element of the financing plan—the contractors' demand for approval of certain expenditures. As you have pointed out in previous negotiation sessions, Legislative authority at the present time does not provide for this authority and control to these select special interests over the state water project and the state water project financing which have been substantially funded by public funds.

Please provide me with any and all email, written communications or other summaries of verbal communications that took place from September 4 through September 22nd regarding these state water project contract negotiations including but not limited to communications between Metropolitan Water District and the Kern County Water Agency representatives as well as the Governor or his representatives, the Director of DWR and Secretary of Resources.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request. I believe a Public Records Act request should be unnecessary, but let me know if this is not the case. Please make this request a part of the official record of these proceedings. Failure to provide adequate public notification of these meetings violates the principles and settlement agreed to as part of the Monterey Principles.

Regards,

Patricia Schifferle
Director
Pacific Advocates